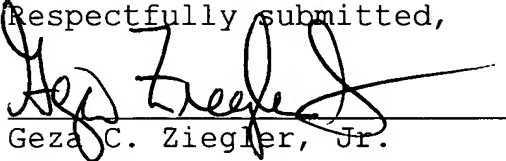


IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-18 remain in the application.
2. Claims 4, 6-8, 10, 14, 15, 17 and 18 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims present in the application are clearly novel and patentable, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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